



What's Inside?

- Scholarships
- 4-H Day Details
- Upcoming Events
- Small Livestock Weigh-in & Tagging
- YQCA and Sale Meeting
- Livestock Nomination Update
- Horse ID and Coggin's Test
- 2025 Fair Superintendents/Volunteers

March 2025

Ellis County 4-H Happenings

Hey 4-H Families!

Congratulations to our winners from the 4-H Food Challenge! Thank you to everyone who participated and those that volunteered or helped in any way!

We are looking forward to seeing some of you at this weekend's Shooting Sports Qualifier or at the 4-H Day event! Good Luck to everyone!

We have a great group of 4-H'ers participating in this year's 4-H Day event! Thanks to the parents and leaders who helped 4-Hers take advantage of this opportunity to grow in their skills. [See all 4-H Day info on next page of this newsletter.](#) Event results will be posted on the 4-H website and Facebook. Those who receive Top Blues can represent Ellis Co. at 4-H Regional Club Day in Hays on March 28th.

As always, if you have questions, please give us a call!

Join our private Facebook group - *Ellis County Kansas 4-H* for more update information and for deadline reminders!

Yours in 4-H,

Tamara Robertson

Meetings Coming Your Way



Achievement Banquet/4-H Day/Promo – Set up for 4-H Day at 12:30PM on March 2nd

4-H Ag Livestock – Complete the Doodle Poll to select a meeting date by March 5th

Ways to Contact Us

- You can reach the Office at (785) 628-9430
- Extension Office fax # is (785) 621-2002
- el@listserv.ksu.edu
- www.cottonwood.ksu.edu

IMPORTANT DEADLINES TO NOTE

March 1 – Sign up to sponsor a County Fair Award

March 3 – State 4-H Scholarships Due On-line

March 7 – Fair Superintendent Sign Up Due

March 7 – Sign up for Babysitting Clinic

March 12 – Water Poster Contest Entries Due by NOON

March 14 – Ellis Co. 4-H Scholarships Due

March 17 – Register for Super Saturday

March 17 – Register for KSU Meat Judging Contest

March 26 – Sign up for Regional 4-H Day by 5 PM

April 6 – MANDATORY YQCA training and livestock sale meeting

May 1 – Last Day to Make Changes to Your 4-H Enrollment for 2025

May 1 – Registered Breeding Livestock in name of 4-H'er

WINTER WEATHER & 4-H ACTIVITIES

Our policy is that if school cancels for weather related events, 4-H events are canceled, too. Please check our website or contact the person in charge before traveling in, if you are in doubt about the status of an event.

K-State, County Extension Councils, Extension Districts, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating

All educational programs and materials available without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

Kansas State University is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to a physical, vision, or hearing disability, contact Ellis Co. Extension, 785-628-9430 or Michelle White-Godinet, Assistant Director of Affirmative Action, Kansas State University (TDD) 785-532-4807.



FOOD CHALLENGE WINNERS

Beginner Champions: Good Hope Team Members: Paisley Pfannenstiel, Ella Schwandt, Cydney Pianalto and Riley Leiker

Junior Champions: Buckeye Junior Farmers Team Members: Audrey Yarmer, Brylie Grove and Brynlee Walter

Senior Champions: Gemini Juniors Team Members: Evan Betz, Sophia Mills and Janea Ross

4-H PROJECT ENROLLMENT

You must be enrolled in 4-H to participate at any 4-H event or activity. You are able to add projects or delete them from your list of enrollments until May 1 for all areas, **except Livestock projects and shooting sports projects. Those need to be enrolled prior to the weigh-in and identification date set for each specie or the start of the shooting sports practice.** I.e. Small Livestock weighed in will be April 30th from 6-8 PM at the Fairgrounds.

To learn more about how to do the updates, [click here](#).

STATE 4-H SCHOLARSHIPS DUE MARCH 3rd

The application for the [2025 Kansas 4-H Scholarship](#) is **due on Monday March 3rd by 11:59 PM**. A list of scholarships available to apply for is posted on the site. The KS 4-H Scholarship requires a copy of your grade transcript, resume, several letters of recommendation, an essay and a short video, so plan ahead! Any past 4-H member who is currently in college is eligible to apply for the KS 4-H scholarships. **You are considered for all scholarships that you qualify for with one application.**

ELLIS COUNTY 4-H SCHOLARSHIPS

The [Ellis Co. 4-H Scholarship](#) and the [Cody Younger Agriculture Scholarship](#) (NEW THIS YEAR) applications are now available on the website. **Seniors, check your emails for a message from Tamara!**

4-H DAY—Sunday, March 2 – North Oak Community Church - Hays

Members who entered should have received an email from Tamara on Feb. 25th with important details. Please review the guidelines and information provided.

The club skit is scheduled at 1 p.m. and everything is running on a tight schedule. All other events will have a BLANK schedule posted outside of each room. **Please arrive early to get signed up for a judging time!** [Check out the website](#) for the latest information, rules, room monitor duties, etc.

There will be a Life Skills Judging and Crops ID Contest set up in the lobby for everyone who wishes to participate.

Room Monitors

Jr./Int. Demonstrations & Illustrated Talks – GJ

Readings – VV

Talent (Skits, Dance & Other Talent) – Sanctuary – GH

Project Talks, Show & Tell – ES

Public Speaking, Extemp. Speaking, Sr. Demo – BJF

Warm Up Room & ARI – BCA

Restrooms & Lobby – Everyone's responsible to make sure these are kept in good order during the event. Thanks for doing your share to keep the facility clean!

REGIONAL 4-H DAY – Friday, March 28th – North Oak Community Church

If you received Top Blue at the local 4-H Day, you are eligible to represent Ellis County at the Regional Competition. **Entry Deadline is Wednesday, March 26th at 5:00 PM**, call 785-628-9430 to let us know if you will be participating.

BABYSITTING 101 CLINIC – March 10th

This course gives participants the knowledge, skills and confidence to care for toddlers through school-aged children. Topics include safety issues, preventing injuries and illness, basic childcare, and age-appropriate activities to do with children. Each student will receive a wealth of information. Students will also learn how to make a snack for kids.

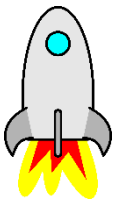
Please let us know at registration if your child has any food allergies that we need to be aware of. Participants must be 11 by the class date. **Pre-registration is required by March 7th, 2025 at 5:00pm.** See flyer at end of newsletter for more details.

FIBER ARTS PROJECT WORK

Natalie Oborny (Fiber Arts Project Leader) will be in the front room of the Extension Office on Tuesday March 11th from 5-6:30 PM to help with fiber arts projects. Bring your own supplies and materials to work on. Please email Natalie at natalie.kramer@doane.edu or contact the Extension Office if you will be there.

WATER POSTER CONTEST

"KNOW WATER...KNOW LIFE" is the theme of this year's contest. This contest is open to all ages Pre-K – Adult. There are some great prizes. Water conservation, Stormwater, Water Quality are the key concepts to share in the poster. For rules, visit the [City of Hays website](#). **Posters are due to school offices, City Hall or Hays Public Works by NOON on Wednesday, March 12th.** Prize winners will be announced by March 28th with an awards ceremony on April 1st.



UNCREWED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS (UAS) WORKSHOP

Central Kansas District 4-H invites you to 'Take Flight with 4-H and join us for the Uncrewed Aircraft Systems (UAS) Workshop!

Are you ready to soar to new heights? Join us for an exciting, hands-on workshop where you'll learn safety and the basics of drone operation, compete in a flight challenge, and even win awesome prizes!

This workshop that will be held March 15th on the K-State Salina Campus from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. is open to youth ages 7 – 18 (parents/guardians must also register). A registration fee of \$15/person will cover lunch and contest fees. All equipment for the workshop will be provided.

To secure your spot for this unique workshop, **register by March 10, 2025.** (Check out the flyer for payment details.) Please contact the Central Kansas District office at 785-309-5850 with any questions.



WORLD WATER DAY FUN FEST

Looking for something to do over Spring Break? Check out the Water Fun Fest at the Sternburg Museum on **Tuesday, March 18, 10am – Noon.** Free event sharing hands on activities about our precious water resource by the Water Ambassadors. Fun for all ages! Door Prizes!

4-H SUPER SATURDAY – March 22 at CCC

March 22 will be a day filled with great 4-H activities for the whole family! There will be 7 judging contests—Crops, Entomology, Horticulture, Life Skills, Livestock, Livestock Skill-A-Thon & Photography for 4-H & FFA youth 7 - 18. You can judge at 1 or all of these great contests. There will be several workshops in the afternoon to help 4-H'ers explore project learning. More detailed information is available on the flyer on our [website](#).

Event Fees: (Pay at event check in, day of) \$7 for contests (one or all 7), \$8 includes contests and a Sack Lunch, and an additional \$5 for afternoon project opportunities.

Register by March 17th at https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dajjdd7SK7HICeW

For questions contact Robyn Trussel, Walnut Creek District Extension 4-H Agent at rdeines@ksu.edu



Livestock ID Procedures

Large and Small animal ID procedures for 2025 have been updated to follow the new tagging rules. Please take time to review this!

SMALL LIVESTOCK WEIGH-IN & TAGGING

If you're planning to show Commercial Breeding animals, Feeder/ Bucket Calves, Meat Goats, Sheep or Swine at this year's Ellis County Fair, make plans now to attend weigh-in and tagging on **April 30th from 6-8 PM at the Fairgrounds.**

EID tags will NOT be sold before hand, tagging and weighing will take place at the same place and time. **All animals have the option to weigh their animals. Remember, you need to be enrolled in the Market livestock project by May 1.**

Families are asked to come into the office and **pay for tags during the week of May 5th-9th**. Any remaining invoices will be mailed out after May 12th. Checks should be made out to Ellis County 4-H Ag Livestock.

K-STATE INVITATIONAL MEAT JUDGING CONTEST

Kansas State University is hosting an invitational meat judging contest at the Weber Hall Meat Lab on April 5th. The contest will include 6 classes, 2 sets of questions and 40 retail identification. After the contest there will be an educational walk through. Registration starts at 7 am with the contest beginning at 8 am. Prizes will be awarded to the top 10 individuals and highest placing team. Cost is \$15 before March 21st and \$25 after that until April 1st.

Register at [Event Information](#). For questions, contact Erin Beyer at erbeyer@ksu.edu

YQCA TRAINING & MANDATORY SALE MEETING – April 6th, 1:30pm – Ag Research Center

On April 6th, Stacy Campbell will be conducting an in-person YQCA training. **This training is required for all youth planning to participate in the Ellis County 4-H Livestock Auction, exhibit in the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and/or KJLS.** This is an annual training, so youth need to complete it each year.

For 2025, you have two options to complete the training:

- In-Person Training on April 6th.
 - If you cannot attend the in-person session on April 6th, you are welcome to attend an in-person training in another county. Please notify the Extension Office that you will be doing this.
- Online Training for \$12 per member.

Important Registration Details: To register, visit yqcaprogram.org. There, you can:

- Register for the class
- Pay the \$3.00 fee
- Complete the PRE-TEST

Please note that NO payment will be accepted at the door. You must be enrolled and complete the pre-test before attending the class.

Mandatory Livestock Sale Meeting: Immediately following the YQCA training, there will be a MANDATORY Livestock Sale Meeting. This meeting is essential for all participants, and **there will not be another opportunity to attend. It is important that both youth and a parent are present.**

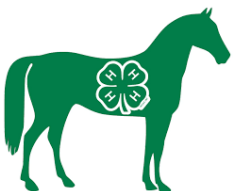
LIVESTOCK NOMINATIONS

Detailed Information on this process will be posted on the [K-State Youth Livestock webpage](#).

Plan ahead as DNA envelopes will need to be ordered directly through ShoWorks (Old DNA envelopes will not be accepted) and families will enter their animal and exhibitor data online through ShoWorks. DNA envelope orders will close 1 week prior to the nomination deadline for each specie. **(April 20th for market beef and June 5th for small livestock)**. You will still need to mail the signed DNA samples by the following deadlines:

May 1 - Market beef/heifer nominations due for KS State fair and KJLS

June 15 - Commercial heifer/market/commercial swine, market goat and market/commercial lamb nominations for KS State fair and KJLS are due



4-H HORSE ID PAPERS DUE JUNE 1

Horse ID papers are available at the Extension Office or on line at kansas4-h.org. You have to have these papers completed and on **file with our office by JUNE 1** in order to show at 4-H sanctioned horse shows. Now's the time to get the photos taken and the forms filed with the Extension Office.

If you have an old form, you will need to transition to the form linked above. It has been updated for the 2025 program year!

4-H HORSE COGGINS TEST REQUIRED AT FAIR

All exhibits in the 4-H Horse Show must present proof of negative Coggins test within the last 12 months at check-in. **If you are needing the test completed please reach out to our office** and we will work with a local vet to get it completed.

More information on the Coggin's test can be found on the [K-State Veterinary Health Center website](#).

VOLUNTEER TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

The Association of Kansas 4-H Volunteers is hosting "Spring Into Volunteering" in Salina on the K-State Polytechnic Campus on Saturday, April 26. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. and the day will conclude at 3 p.m.

This is for anyone serving as a 4-H Volunteer or considering it! The goal is for volunteers to go home recharged, excited and ready to try some new things in their volunteer roles. Sessions for the day include Preparing Youth for Real-World Opportunities, Personalities and How They Affect Volunteers, Facilitating Civic Engagement and Service, Keeping Kids Engaged, and Resources for You.

More information can be found on the [Kansas 4-H website](#).

Registration for the day is \$20 and includes; materials, snacks and lunch! Online registration is due April 15, 2025 and the fee will be submitted to local office.

CLUB FUNDRAISER OPPORTUNITIES

SCIENCE FESTIVAL BAKE SALE- We are excited to invite your clubs to participate in the upcoming Kansas Science Festival in Downtown Hays on May 4th, 2025. This event will take place from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM, and we would love for your club to have a bake sale booth as part of the festivities. [2025 Science Festival Flyer](#)

This is a fantastic opportunity for your members to showcase their baking skills while also promoting your 4-H Club and the 4-H Program. We encourage you to get creative with your baked goods, and we are certain that your participation will add to the lively atmosphere of the festival.

If your club is interested in participating, **please let Tamara know by March 24th!**

WHEAT PLOT TOUR MEAL - Each year we hold and conduct a county wheat plot tour/field day in May. After the field day we come into Hays to the Municipal Park, 1st and Main Street for dinner. Any 4-H club in the county can throw their clubs name in the hat to prepare and serve the meal. Stacy will go out and get the donations and the 4-H club will receive the donated money after the event. The meal has generally consisted of grilled hamburgers and brats with the condiments, pickles, onions, chips, baked beans or potato salad, a dessert, water, tea, and lemonade (optional). We are encouraging people to RSVP, so we will give the club an estimated head count closer to the date.

If your club is interested in doing this for a fundraiser, **please let Theresa know by May 2nd**. If you have any questions feel free to ask Stacy or Theresa.

ELLIS COUNTY FAIR 2025 will be July 13 - 19, 2025
The Theme is "Another Day in Fair-adise!"



ELLIS COUNTY FAIR SUPERINTENDENTS & VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

You can sign up via this link: [2025 Fair Superintendent Link](#) by **MARCH 7th** or call the office at 785-628-9430 to let us know how you'd like to help.

Older 4-H'ers and interested adults are encouraged to join our "team" in getting things ready for this year's Fair. Once again, all clubs will be asked to recruit volunteers to help with a variety of jobs at the Fair, as well. Watch for that listing coming your way soon.

Remember, **DEADLINES** are **DEADLINES** in **Ellis Co. 4-H**. Please pay attention to and respect those deadlines so that your child doesn't miss out on an opportunity!

K-STATE
Research and Extension



Cottonwood
District

presents

BABYSITTING 101

FOR AGES 11-15



Monday, March 10, 2025
1:00PM-5:00PM
Cottonwood Extension Office
601 Main Street, Hays, KS
Cost \$10 cash or check

Register by calling 785-628-9430 or emailing moniquek@ksu.edu

Kansas State University is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to physical, vision, or hearing disability, contact Monique Kramer at 785-628-9430 or moniquek@ksu.edu. Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service. K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Fiber Arts Project Work

Tues, March 11, 5-6:30pm
Ellis County Extension Office

Natalie Oborny will be in the front room of the Extension Office to help with fiber arts projects. Bring supplies and materials to work on. Please email Natalie or the Extension Office if you will be there.

natalie.kramer@doane.edu

CENTRAL KANSAS DISTRICT 4-H



UAS WORKSHOP

MARCH 15, 2025, 10:30AM-5:00PM
K-STATE SALINA CAMPUS

Who should register:

Youth ages 7-18 who have an interest in Uncrewed Aircraft Systems



Registration:

Please register at: <https://tinyurl.com/CKD2025UASWorkshop>
Each individual (including parents/guardians) will need to register. Registrations are due online by March 10, 2025. If you have questions, please call 785-309-5850.

Cost:
\$15/person, includes lunch and contest fees. Payment must be made to Central Kansas District 4-H Council and needs to be received by the registration deadline. Payments may be mailed to the Central Kansas District 4-H Council at 2218 Scanlan Avenue; Salina, KS 67401

Event Objectives

- Safety Rules
- Flight Basics
- Drone Flights
- Obstacle Course Flight Competition

Attire & What to Expect:
Dress code is casual. The day will feature sessions covering the basics (including rules and flight overview), flight competition, and prizes.

Additional Information:

Please plan to arrive and sign-in at 10:30 a.m. at the College Center Conference Room on the K-State Salina Campus.

Participants will be using the equipment provided. Please do not bring your own drone.

Please join us in special thanks to 4-H Member Eian Pracht for his leadership to plan the workshop and to Acacia Pracht for her artwork for the flyer.



Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service. K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Accommodations:

K-State Research and Extension is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the event contact Kate Littich two weeks prior to the start of the event (March 1) at klittich@ksu.edu or 785-309-5850. Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so.

K-STATE
Research and Extension
Central Kansas District



NW 4-H

Judging Event

Super Saturday

Saturday, March 22, 2025, 9:00am -Finish

Host Site: Colby Community College Student Union and Thomas County Fairgrounds. Colby, Kansas

Judging Contests include: 9:00am to 12:30pm -- \$7.00 Crops, Entomology, Horticulture, Life Skills, Photography, Livestock Skill-a-thon

Volunteer Sessions for Parents and Volunteers - Free, 10:00am

Livestock Judging : 12:30pm Thomas County Fairgrounds

Project Opportunities: (NON-LIVESTOCK Judging youth): 1:00 -3:00pm \$5.00 The afternoon will be filled with engineering and technology stations (robots, circuits, building bricks, etc.) and Visual Arts Stations (Scrapbook, clay, paper crafts, etc.)

Sack Lunches provided with mandatory RSVP - \$8.00



Registration Link:

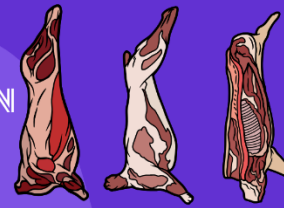
https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dajjdd7SK7HICeW

If you have any questions concerning this event, you may contact Robyn Trussel at 785-798-5020 or rtrussel@ksu.edu or Chandra Plate at 620-388-7157 or eplate@ksu.edu



K-State, County Extension Districts and U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating. K State Research & Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer

REGISTRATION OPEN!



NEW INFO BELOW!

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY INVITATIONAL MEAT JUDGING CONTEST

APRIL 5, 2025

- 6 CLASSES, 2 SETS OF QUESTIONS, AND 40 RETAIL ID
- MEAT LAB AT WEBER HALL
- REGISTRATION OPENS AT 7:00AM
- CONTEST BEGINS AT 8:00AM
- EDUCATIONAL WALK THROUGH AFTER CONTEST
- PRIZES FOR TOP 10 AND HIGH TEAM

REGISTRATION LINK ON JUDGINGCARD.COM

QUESTIONS TO ERIN BEYER ERBEYER@KSU.EDU



The Association of Kansas 4-H Volunteers Board Invites YOU, 4-H volunteers and 4-H parents to

Spring Into Volunteering

SAT, April 26 9AM - 3PM

K-State Polytechnic Campus - College Center Conference Room

2310 Centennial Rd, Salina, KS 67401

Admission

\$20 covers lunch and materials

Register online by April 15, 2025

https://bit.ly/3XAGMow

Take payment to local Extension office

Agenda:

- Get Acquainted and Introductions
- Personality Types and Volunteer Work
- Strategies to prepare youth for real-world opportunities
- Civic Engagement and Service Projects
- Training Wheels Activities
- 4-H Volunteer Resources



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Hinshaw two weeks prior to the start of the event March 31, 2025) at (bhinshaw@ksu.edu).

Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so.